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Prominent U.S. diplomat says: Arabs must launch peace initiative

By a Jordan Times
staff reporter

AMMAN, April 16—If the Arabs believe that the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty poses an insurmountable obstacle to peace in the Middle East, then that will be a self-fulfilling prophecy. Mr. Charles Yost, the former permanent U.S. representative to the United Nations, told the Jordan Times yesterday.

Mr. Yost, a career diplomat turned academician, is now an official of the Aspen Institute for Humanistic Studies. He was in Amman last week for the institute's Mideast Project Workshop on the theme of "The Arab World in Transition" (April 11-15).

Mr. Yost, who served briefly as U.S. ambassador to Syria and then to Morocco, is himself an advocate of a comprehensive Arab-Israeli peace settlement. But he argues that the Arabs should not get discouraged at this crucial juncture, but must come forward with their own alternative to the Camp David process to keep the quest for peace alive.

He does not subscribe to the view that the Arab World has lost Egypt, Cairo and Washington will actively support a peace initiative by the Arab states which oppose the separate peace treaty, he believes, if the Arabs are agreed on the forum, the question of participation and the modalities of how to secure the remaining Arab goals—and if they are willing to proceed by degrees.

He advises against inter-Arab fighting at this stage, which will suit Israel but will not advance the Arab cause. He says sanctions against Egypt are not a good idea, disillusionment is even worse. Commenting on the recent conference of Arab foreign and economy ministers in Baghdad which decided to boycott Egypt, he says he would have suggested:

"Yes, condemn this step (the Egyptian-Israeli treaty) if one wishes, which is so woefully incomplete that we (the Arab participants in the Baghdad conference) have great misgivings about it," but he would have then advised "to have made some concrete proposals about how to proceed next in order to carry on the negotiations beyond this point."

"I personally have always favoured a comprehensive settlement. I would have much preferred to see progress along the whole front of Arab-Israeli relations rather than with one country alone. Those like myself who favour a comprehensive settlement must recognise the fact that for that to succeed there has to be movement on the part of all the participants. A failure to agree on movement among the various Arab participants was what induced President Sadat to throw up his hands and say: 'I can't move all the rest so I will have to move myself,' hence his trip to Jerusalem, the ensuing Camp David summit and the Egyptian-Israeli treaty.

"The United States pursued this particular course—the Camp David process—because it seemed the only one that offered any promise at the moment. That doesn't mean that this is the end of the road at all," Mr. Yost said.

"In the first place there obviously will be an attempt to implement the second part of the Camp David agreement; and if that attempt doesn't proceed successfully as it runs into the roadblocks that many people perceive, including myself, then other ways must be found of keeping the negotiating process going in such a way as to involve the Jordanians, the Palestinians, the Syrians and the others who weren't a party to Camp David. This is not anything startlingly new in the Middle East. I have been involved myself in a dozen different negotiating efforts to move the whole thing forward, and they are constantly breaking down and new efforts are tried.

"If there are certain Arab states which are dissatisfied with what has happened at Camp David, and there obviously are, it seems to me that it is their responsibility to propose alternatives—not merely to keep saying No, we don't like this—but to say we think you are on the wrong track, we propose this alternative, this is the way we propose to proceed and we hope you will join us."

"I think it is a mistaken judgement that because Egypt has signed a peace agreement with Israel it cannot extract any further concessions from Israel. I think Egypt has more influence with Israel now than it had before, much more... I think Egypt now has much greater access to Israel, and it will be in Egypt's interest—because after all it prizes its relationship with the other

Arab countries—to use that position to try to bring progress on the other aspects of the settlement.

"It's committed for the moment on this process of autonomy for the West Bank, but if Israel makes it impossible for any real progress to be achieved, or anyone else makes it impossible, then alternatives will have to be offered, as I say, and I see no reason why Egypt should not join with other Arabs, or accept the invitation of other Arabs, to pursue those alternatives—and the United States as well.

"But I don't think the full responsibility lies on the United States to present the alternatives. We have, in the absence of anything better, followed a course that has led to a very partial settlement. We are eager to find means of proceeding on to a comprehensive settlement. We would, I am sure, welcome recommendations and initiatives from other Arab states as to what particular negotiating forum would be generally acceptable.

"I agree with you that Mr. Begin's position is very unhelpful and the United States strongly opposes that position, whether in regard to the establishment of further Israeli settlements or in regard to possible ultimate annexation, and if that position is maintained throughout the coming negotiations on autonomy, obviously they won't succeed.

"But I don't agree that that situation is anything startlingly new... this is something we have to cope with. And I don't agree at all that the Camp David process has interrupted this search—the pursuit of a comprehensive settlement. If the Arabs choose to interpret it that way, of course that will be the result. If they simply throw up their hands and say: 'Well, there is nothing we can do now,' then the whole process will bog down again.

"But in my opinion this should not in any way be interpreted as an interruption of the process. It is merely one step in the process: there will be many, many more steps before there is a final solution. And I would have thought that it was in the general Arab interest to immediately seek what the next step—from their point of view—might be that would be helpful.

"I see from the paper that His Majesty King Hussein has suggested the possibility of going back to Geneva. That may well be the right course, I don't know. But if he can persuade the other Arabs that that is the thing to do, and can propose it and can work out the modalities so that it becomes a practical matter, not merely a hope, then I am sure the United States would have no objections and indeed would welcome it.

"I don't think the Arabs strengthen their hand when they start imposing sanctions on each other. I think they weaken their hand enormously. It looks to me now that for the next few months the Arabs are going to spend their time fighting with each other, thus having very little effect on Israel. Israel must be delighted with it. It doesn't strengthen Jordan, Syria or the Palestinians to impose economic sanctions on Egypt.

"They (the Arabs) have got to find the means, sooner or later, of getting back together again and jointly exerting pressure on Israel to continue the process eventually leading to Palestinian self-determination. And the United States will be happy to associate itself with this process and I'm sure you'll see that happening," Mr. Yost argued.

"But it can only succeed if there is some degree of inter-Arab cooperation and a willingness to move forward by degrees, not to insist that everything be accorded all at once. That isn't the way things happen in the political world.

"A fair argument could be made that perhaps a peace agreement should not have been signed now," he acknowledges. "But we (the United States) were confronted with a strong conviction by President Sadat that he had tried that course for a number of years and it had been a failure, and his own domestic needs impelled him to try another course, to see if that would be more successful.

"Maybe he was right, maybe he was wrong. But in any case we now have a new situation, and what we should all try to agree together is how to proceed next. And I would argue that the best way to proceed is not to exacerbate inter-Arab quarrels, but to try to find common ground for moving on to the next steps and a negotiating forum in which we will continue to press hard for the remaining Arab goals, of which Palestinian self-determination is one of the principal objectives."

Crown Prince Hassan on:

The search for justice

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following is the main text of Sunday's closing address by His Highness Crown Prince Hassan at the end of the Aspen Institute seminar on "The Arab World in Transition," held at the Chamber of Industry in Amman from April 11-15. In future issues, the Jordan Times hopes to publish papers presented by some of the other participants in the seminar.

THERE IS NO DOUBT that the Arab World today stands at a crossroads. Nothing is more important, at this stage, than to examine carefully the available options and make policy decisions which will condition the future of the area. Whether one views Southwest Asia in relation to problems of peace which has for so long evaded it, or whether one examines the internal convulsions and conflicts, there is no escaping the basic fact that the stage has now been reached where all Arab people and those who have the awesome responsibility of leading and influencing them, should do some basic stocktaking, reviewing outdated concepts, shedding old prejudices and helping shape a future of durable peace and stability in every part of the region. There is no doubt that insecurity anywhere is a threat to security everywhere; that despair anywhere can affect complacency everywhere; that frustration begets violence leading to conflict.

During the last four days, we have discussed ideology and changing values: economic perspectives and social, legal and cultural values. These are inter-related and interdependent fields. Contemporary history of the Arab World demonstrates amply that these fields are deeply and inescapably conditioned by Middle Eastern politics. The main actors in the political field are not just the countries within the area, but also those which have a stake there, including those which have become active participants in the process of shaping its future. There is no doubt either that socio-economic progress in the area as a whole has been seriously hampered, not only by the internal and external political difficulties of the countries concerned, but also by armed conflicts and a persistent environment of instability and insecurity.

The costly confrontation between Israel and the Arab World at large continues because there are people in this area who see an inherent conflict between the notion of peace and the concept of justice. The unresolved dilemma is not whether to take their legitimate fears into consideration, but how to do so. It is said, rather benignly, that the Camp David participants are looking for peace while the non-participants are looking for justice. It is useful to note that the possibility of a comprehensive peace which may be just and durable and which Jordan favours, should not be foreclosed any more than Jordan's continuing active participation in such a process. Be it as it may, let me say that peace without justice is peace built upon quicksand; that peace which can be a potential prelude to conflict is no peace.

Last Wednesday, when this symposium began, the first speaker, Professor Williams, eloquently outlined the origins of U.S. ideology which had its main roots in the belief of the New England Puritans. From the East Coast, where the Pilgrim Fathers landed, the Biblical beliefs spread to the rest of the land—including the State of Georgia. The ensuing discussion on the origins of U.S. ideology made me think of a discussion which took place at the debating society of the University where I studied. The subject of the debate, whose historical veracity I would leave you to judge, was: "When Christopher Columbus discovered America, he went too far."

During the discussion on U.S. ideology, the idea was also put forward that the sympathy for Israel in the U.S. stems from the study of the Bible. It is worthwhile noting, however, that the Bible is similarly studied in many other lands, but the effect on the thinking of the children and the adults is not quite the same. It would be interesting to further analyse the reasons behind this phenomenon, be they psychological, sociological or political.

Talking of the Bible, and thinking of the recent bilateral treaty between Egypt and Israel which is supposed to cement peace, I am reminded of the words of Isaiah in the Old Testament (XII:6): "The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb and the leopard shall lie down with the kid." However, bearing in mind Jordan's experience over the years with its neighbour Israel, and thinking of Israel's present leadership, I am also reminded of the question put by Jeremiah (XIII:23): "Can the Ethiopian change his skin or the leopard his spots?"

As it is, leopard spots make me ponder over the changing map of the occupied West Bank and the settlements which Israel is continuing to establish there in defiance of world opinion and the principles of international law and practice. Each of these ventures constitutes a serious impediment in the path of peace.

It is clear that the policy of settlements in occupied territories amounts to steady creation of Bantustans. An increasing dependence of the West Bank economy on Israel is being actively encouraged. Facts and figures show that Israel is not only using cheap Arab labour from the occupied territories, but also benefiting from the natural resources of the West Bank. It is not necessary for me at this meeting to go into details of this aspect. But I felt that it was important to point out that alongside the rhetoric in favour of peace, Israel is continuing policies which she knows are serious obstacles to peace.

For Jordan, whose sustained commitment to peace and whose position regarding the overall Middle East problem has remained steadfastly consistent through the years, a just and durable peace does not mean a mere piece of paper—or a carefully drafted document into which each side can read what it likes to read, and which essentially may be a series of compromises in semantics. To create a climate of confidence and an environment conducive to peace, deeds must match words and tangible proofs of the good faith of each party should be presented: I emphasise this aspect even at the risk of trying your patience since it is important that the basic problems are fully understood, and that world opinion is not misled by the euphoria of a bilateral peace treaty whose benefits may be limited to just one or two countries of the area for a very short time. The price to pay for hasty action in their field might be too high compared to some short-lived benefits.

No country in West Asia is happy about the burden of ever-increasing defence budgets which drain national resources and hamper socio-economic progress. Yet under the present circumstances, subsequent economic prosperity leading to peace is almost impossible. The transition in the Arab World which we have been discussing is heavily conditioned by this state of affairs. If one adds to it the present internal upheavals in several countries of the area, the overall prospect of genuine regional stability looks even

more remote.

There is also an increased concern that Israel's policies are contributing further towards the flaring up of minority problems in order to increase instability in the Arab countries, which is naturally in favour. Such action, if successful, could cause harmful divisions within nation states and enable Israel to emerge as a minority within inter-pares.

Similarly, the alternative available to the few moderate states in the area is further and inevitable extremism, which would cause instability and, in the long run, prove harmful for everyone in the area, including those who may draw short-term benefits from the policy. While appreciating the seriousness of the U.S. committee, we note that already the bilateral peace treaty and the move played by the U.S., in this phase of its continuing "policy of containment" since the 1967 occupation of Arab territory, have contributed towards destabilising traditional alliances and pushing Arab states towards new polarisations. Whilst they are aware of the obviousness of the U.S., these countries naturally have to articulate collective policies responsible to the present exigencies of the situation. Little effort has been made by the parties concerned to promote a climate conducive to a basic transition from the old Geneva efforts for comprehensive peace to Camp David. There has been too abrupt and obvious the delicate balance between sense of urgency in the quest for peace and the credibility of the leading to it.

A further complicating factor is the role that leaders of the David countries as well as others are playing to formulate policies which may not be entirely in national interests in the long run, linked, of course, with the perennial problem of the influence of leaders and the effect of their preferences, or of their strong and points, on the course of history. Ultimately, the price, however low or high, is paid by the nations and their peoples. The commitment to the immediate and long-term "future" is clearly conditioned by and other important factors.

One of the basic dilemmas in the Arab World and generally in the Third World, is that through a combination of colonial legacies, general ignorance of the masses and the Western education received by the ruling elites, the process of development is hopelessly fused with modernisation and westernisation. In fact, some people in the Third World use development, modernisation, westernisation as synonyms, often linked with their relative closeness to the West and resulting alienation from their indigenous values. This is a grave fundamental error. The present revolt against the ways and values in certain countries is in fact an underlying reaction of the masses based on an increased awareness of the values and the fact that development does not mean westernisation.

In the context of the North-South Dialogue, as well as with South-South relationships, and in the search for a New International Economic Order, the basic issues involved in an equitable distribution of technology and the choice of appropriate technology have become clearer to the Third World countries, including those in West Asia. This is leading to attempts by the South at wider cooperation each other as well as the adjustment of its inherited relationship with the North. These attempts will inevitably give rise to major misunderstandings by sections of Western populations in media, as we pursue our goal of fuller interdependence.

On yet another aspect of transition, many people think that a recent move in certain countries towards Islamic fundamentalism is the re-emergence of Islam as a social krism, constituting a Western civilisation, to which, ironically, Islamic civilisation contributed a great deal. For Muslims, Islam has represented the centuries a way of being rather more than a dogma, precisely the reason for the search for identity being today as we try to assimilate the modern world. The fact that certain countries do not touch on much the existing political structures; they rather concern the social and economic. Again these attitudes represent a search for distinct identity, a real force can only be judged after the first wave of enthusiasm.

As regards basic human principles, a consensus amongst discussions regarding the continuing dedication to basic values U.S. and the Arab World such as liberty, human dignity, a principle of self-determination. We would wish the principle determination applied fully in the Middle East context and wish the U.S. to put its full weight behind it in line with its own policy and its consistent support of the principle since its own independence.

Turning to another aspect, it is left within the Arab World as regards the oil-producing and the non-oil-producing states that the primary interest of the West is the supply of oil, everything else is peripheral or subservient to it. If one could producing less, another must produce more to compensate; this the West may export food and technology on a basis which keep the Arab World permanently dependent—or rather make unhealthy interdependence which basically is not interdependence but rather the uneasy juxtaposition of two types of dependence. Here again, there is need not only to remove such misunderstandings but also to promote a more healthy relationship through a basic review of imports and exports and their relation to socio-economic progress and harmony.

In terms of relations between nations it is being increasingly recognised that the foreign policy of countries essentially national constraints and interests. This is particularly so in a democratic system. However, national interests and lobby pressure sometimes have negative effects as far as the overall international community—or of a given region—are concerned responsibility for overcoming this problem lies with national leaders.

Finally, in the context of transition in the Arab World which has been accelerated by recent events in the area, it may be a change in the institutional structures and in the system of power appears inevitable. One obvious example is the structure of the Arab League, highly centralised secretariat structure may now be expected decentralised. Its overall regional role and policies may be expected to undergo change. Similarly, in the case of multilateral alliances, the circumstances appear to favour a movement towards multilateralism, rather than the old of around. From the social, economic and political point of view, makes more sense, since convergence of interests is not identifiable.

Just an idea

WE CAN ALWAYS count on our friend Mr. Michael Adams to come up with sympathetic and stimulating ideas to help light the path as we map out our collective course in the aftermath of the separate Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty.

In a newspaper article, Mr. Adams has suggested that there exists at least the basis for universal agreement to impose international sanctions against Israel for persisting with its settlement policy in the occupied territories.

Without in any way detracting from the significance of last month's Security Council resolution, adopted at the end of a debate called at Jordan's behest, which strongly condemned the settlements as lacking legal validity and as an obstacle to peace, Mr. Adams suggests only that the resolution came a bit late. "It should have been clear ever since the first Israeli settlements were established on the West Bank and the Golan Heights in 1967 that Israel intended to keep these territories in any future peace settlement," he argues.

Moreover, the entire world community has rejected these settlements as illegal—for once, in other words, world opinion is firmly on the side of the Arabs—so, Mr. Adams asks, what are we going to do about it, beyond last month's resolution? The question becomes more imperative with every Israeli announcement—and they are made weekly—of plans for additional settlements on the West Bank, even as the ones in Sinai are supposedly about to be dismantled. (And if anyone thinks that the Israelis are not just deliberately thumbing their noses at the apparent impotence of world opinion, what about last week's announcement that they propose to begin prospecting for oil in the Ramallah area?)

When the Security Council reconvenes in July to hear the report of the three-man commission it has set up to examine the settlements question, Mr. Adams thinks, the Arabs must seize the initiative for taking an action that speaks louder than words. "If they can impose sanctions on Egypt for going the wrong way about achieving a comprehensive peace in the Middle East, what is there to stop them proposing sanctions against Israel for blocking the way to such a peace?" he asks, noting that such an assessment of Israel's policies and practices is shared by all the great and small powers alike.

The U.S. might find itself in a ludicrously contradictory position if it sought to block such a vote for sanctions, given President Carter's own pronouncements on the settlements issue. If it were to abstain, rather than veto the resolution, and then make guarantees to help Israel to bust the sanctions, then we would at least know who was on whose side.

It all seems to us a sensible idea. The whole settlements issue is becoming too much of a provocation and an impediment to the peace we search for us to content ourselves any longer just with words.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

AL RA'I MONDAY SAYS: "It is humiliating (to see) Israel threatening the Arabs and creating justifications to cover up its barbaric operations within the occupied territories and in southern Lebanon so that it won't be exposed."

The paper further wonders "if it is not time for the Arabs to join in efforts to close the gaps now open for the Zionist enemy (to attack through), build up their indigenous strength, and mobilise their forces to put an end to the cancerous Zionist plague 'creeping in the Arab body'."

"Israel, which has succeeded in normalising relations with the Sadat regime, finds itself quite free to move in the direction of the confrontation states," the paper says.

"Although we can ignore Sadat's mud-slinging at the Arabs, we cannot ignore the escalating Israeli threats."

"Having become totally free to be concerned with only its eastern and northern fronts, Israel is now creating pretexts to cover for preparations it is making for prospective (military) operations," the paper believes.

In conclusion, the paper says, "We have to realise the seriousness of the forthcoming stage, rise up to the historic responsibility, and start building up our indigenous strength to the level where we will be capable of facing up to the challenges. Otherwise, the tripartite coalition will translate their threats into action."

AL DUSTOUR comments that "It seems that the United States is so intoxicated with the victory it has achieved in reaching a settlement between Sadat and Begin that it is quite incapable of seeing the differences between the relative easiness with which the Egyptian-Israeli reconciliation has been reached, and the tremendous difficulties impeding the implementation of the second stage of the Camp David agreement."

"Egypt and Israel have attempted to settle their conflict within the framework of U.S. strategic interests. The Palestinians and the Arabs, however, are not interested in solving the Arab-Israeli conflict in such a way as to (eventually) get themselves caught in the net of international conflict as U.S. allies opposing the Soviet Union," the paper says.

"Rather what they want is a solution that is not in favour of (only) one of the two major powers—a solution that guarantees global peace and excludes the Middle East from the whirl of major powers conflict," the paper continues.

"The bilateral (Egyptian-Israeli) solution has been reached because Sadat has been willing to walk out on the Arabs. The situation concerning Israel and the rest of the Arabs, however, is totally different. While Israel is neither eager to solve the Palestinian problem nor prepared to evacuate the West Bank, Jerusalem and the Gaza strip, the Arabs are not ready to abandon the Palestinian rights or sell out the Palestinian cause."

"The U.S. is disregarding objective facts (when) it believes that what is good for implementing the first stage of the Camp David agreement is (necessarily) good for implementing the second stage of the agreement, which seeks to deal with the Palestinian issue. (That fact is that) the United States is walking on a road that can only lead to destruction," the paper concludes.

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National News Roundup

Jordanian, Saudi Arabian talks held on bilateral security

AMMAN, April 16 (JNA)—Jordanian-Saudi Arabian talks were held here yesterday and today to put into force a bilateral agreement on security matters which was signed last year. The agreement provides among other things for facilitating travel of Jordanian and Saudi Arabian citizens between the two countries and the movement of Bedouin tribes and their livestock across the common border, especially during the grazing seasons. At today's session the two teams agreed on coordinating the two countries' measures to counter smuggling operations, infiltration and criminal activity, the under-secretary of the Ministry of Interior, 'Eid Abu Karaki, said today. The two sides are agreed that a new bilateral agreement on extradition of criminals should be drawn up, he added.

World Bank approves \$15 m. electrification loan

WASHINGTON, April 16 (R)—The World Bank said today it has approved a \$15 million loan to help finance an electrical power project in central Jordan. The bank said the \$53.5 million project supported by the loan will provide additional power to about 46,000 people in 33 villages. The loan is for 17 years, including a four-year grace period, at seven per cent.

Soviet delegation concludes meetings on shale

AMMAN, April 16 (JNA)—A Soviet delegation Monday concluded discussions with several Jordanian officials on cooperation between Jordan and the Soviet Union in the field of exploiting oil-bearing shale in Jordan. Dr. Ibrahim Badran, Planning Director at the Jordan Electricity Authority, pointed out that the talks had encouraging results.

Jordanian passports to be issued in one day

AMMAN, April 16 (JNA)—Mohammad A. Qudrah, Director General of the Passport Department announced on Monday that: "Any citizen wishing to obtain a new passport can apply for one, and get it on the same day he pays the stipulated fees." "High school students wishing to obtain new passports are advised to apply for their passports before the beginning of summer and the arrival of huge numbers of Jordanians who work abroad," he told JNA.

Iraqi Youth Minister meets Badran

AMMAN, April 16 (JNA)—The visiting Iraqi Minister of Youth, Karim Hussein Mahmoud, called on Prime Minister Mudar Badran today to discuss ways of promoting relations between Iraq and Jordan in cultural and youth affairs. Earlier in the day the Iraqi Minister and his Jordanian counterpart, Sharif Fawwaz Sharaf, explored ways of initiating cooperation in cultural activities.

Medical, engineering students readmitted to U of J

AMMAN, April 16 (JNA)—Dr. Mahmoud Al Samrah, Acting President of the University of Jordan, made a statement on today in which he said that: "In response to the decision of the university council of deans, second, third, fourth and fifth year medical students as well as third and fourth year engineering and technology students have applied for readmission, pledging to abide by the university regulations and rules. The students were issued new I.D. cards, and are scheduled to resume their studies on Wednesday."

Jordan River bridges to close for two days

AMMAN, April 16 (JNA)—Bridges across the Jordan River will be closed for two days starting Tuesday, April 17, it was officially announced here today.

Coming & Going

Saudi Information Minister leaves

AMMAN, April 16 (JNA)—Saudi Arabian Minister of Information Mohammad Abdo Yamani and his accompanying delegation left Amman yesterday at the end of a one-day visit to Jordan for talks with Minister of Information Adnan Abu Odeh. The talks dealt with ways of strengthening cooperation between Jordan and Saudi Arabia in the field of information. Dr. Yamani said in a statement at Amman airport.

Central Bank director leaves for Kuwait

AMMAN, April 16 (JNA)—Central Bank Executive Director Mohammad Jaser left for Kuwait today to take part in the

meeting of the Inter-Arab Investment Guarantee Corporation which starts tomorrow. Participants during the two-day meeting will discuss ways of expanding the corporations' activities in the field of economic and social development in the Arab world, and means of encouraging Arab investors to employ capital in Arab projects. All the Arab states with the exception of Oman and the Democratic Republic of Yemen are members of the Kuwait-based corporation whose capital is nearly KD 25 million. The corporation, founded in 1971 provides for guarantees for Arab investors against losses suffered from expropriation, nationalisation and other non-commercial risks on investments in Arab countries. It also provides for promotion of research to identify investment opportunities and climates in member countries.

Amman venue for 3 transport union meets

By a Jordan Times staff reporter

AMMAN, April 16—The Arab Land Transport Union today concluded three days of meetings here during which a board of directors was elected.

The union is composed of land transport companies with a capital of \$300,000 or more which carry either freight or passengers. Jordanian companies represented are the JETT bus company, the Jordanian-Syrian Land Transport Company and the city bus company in Amman. Other countries represented are Iraq, Libya, Tunisia, Lebanon and the Yemen Arab Republic. The board includes two members each from Jordan, Iraq and Libya, and one member each from Tunisia, Lebanon and Yemen.

The union was established last year by the Council of Arab Economic Unity to forge cooperation among members in developing and facilitating land transport. Maritime and railway unions established at the same time have also been meeting here this week.

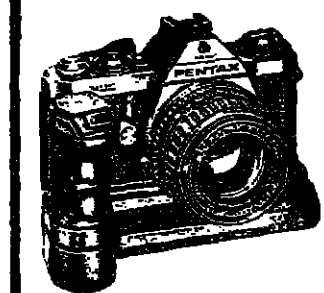
The Arab Maritime Union, made up of shipping companies from Jordan, Syria, Iraq, Kuwait and Libya met April 13-15. A representative from each country was chosen to sit on the union's board. Member companies must own one or more ships valued at a total of \$1 million or more.

The railway union will hold its first meeting tomorrow.

LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

U.S. dollar	303.00/305.00
U.K. sterling	630.00/634.00
West German mark	159.10/160.10
Swiss franc	175.20/176.30
French franc	69.30/69.70
Italian lire	35.90/36.10
Japanese yen	140.30/141.20
Dutch guilder	147.10/148.00
Belgian franc	100.50/101.10
Swedish crown	69.00/69.40

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Arab solar energy course opens at RSS

AMMAN, April 16 (JNA)—A one-month course on the use of solar energy in desalination of sea water, heating and air conditioning and all types of agriculture, will look into research programmes on the extensive use of solar energy in desalination of sea water, heating and air conditioning and all types of agriculture.

The course, organised and sponsored by the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organisation in cooperation with the RSS is the first of its kind to be held in the Arab world.

LAT'S GOING ON

Geographic Exhibit

Cultural Centre is displaying an exhibition of maps, historical equipment organised by the Jordan National Centre and the French Mapping Group. The exhibit is open during regular hours.

American Films

Cultural Centre presents two films, the first entitled "Holocaust Factory", at 6:00 p.m., and the second, "The Holocaust", at 7:00 p.m. It is necessary to reserve seats before noon.

Photo Exhibit

Cultural Centre presents a display of photos to commemorate the 109th birthday of Lenin. Open during regular hours.

German Film

Cultural Centre presents a film by R.W. Fassbinder entitled "Pest" at 8:00 p.m., subtitled in English. This will be a documentary about a miner entitled "Ein Bergmanns Leben".

Symposium

Cultural Centre presents a slide-illustrated symposium "Les principes d'elaboration des cartes geographiques" by Rene Thomas, Christian Chenez and Marcel Chenez. The symposium starts at 6:30 p.m.

TO LET

Two bedrooms each, with central heating, air conditioning, (opposite Al Hussein Housing area).

Rent furnished or unfurnished.

For more information, call tel. 42434.

Central Bank market, Jabal Amman Third

Due to liquidation of goods. Sale at cost price. Conversion of its stores into tourist shops and assets will be sold at cost price. Retail.

WANTED

Apartment, unfurnished, two or three bedrooms, not in the centre of Amman.

Call on 38956 during regular office hours.

FRANCE SALE

Selected home furniture items at very reasonable prices.

Items include: chairs, leather armchairs, and lounge corner sets.

LANDIA

Abal Amman, near Abou Ahmad, Tel. 42667.

AMMAN STOCK EXCHANGE REPORT

NAME OF COMPANY	Par Value	Volume Traded	Last Buying Offer	Last Selling Offer	Closing Price
Jordan Petroleum Co.	JD 5,000	590	6,760	6,790	6,780
Jordan Cement Factories	JD 10,000	2,820	—	14,200	14,100
Jordan Phosphate Mines	JD 1,000	330	—	2,230	2,200
Arab Pharmaceutical Co.	JD 5,000	5,077	22,600	22,900	22,750
General Mining Co.	JD 1,000	506	0,910	0,930	0,920
Jordan Electricity Co.	JD 1,000	1,343	1,420	1,430	1,420
Arab Aluminium Co.	JD 1,000	930	0,920	0,940	0,930
Jordan Bank	JD 5,000	4,632	7,350	7,450	7,400
Arab Bank	JD 10,000	11,050	—	90,000	89,000
Arab International Investment and Trade Co.	JD 5,000	1,225	—	3,700	3,700
Jordan Spinning and Weaving Co.	JD 1,000	142	0,710	0,730	0,710
Garage Owner's Federation Office Co.	JD 1,000	1,060	—	—	5,300

Total volume traded, Monday, April 16: JD 29,705
Total number of shares traded: 4,807

Government Development Bonds	Par Value	Volume Traded	Number Traded	Year of Maturity	Selling Price
	JD 5,000	50	10	1979	5,010
	JD 5,000	729	140	1982	5,250
	JD 5,000	894	174	1986	5,140
	JD 10,000	2,060	200	1988	10,300

Total volume traded: JD 3,733
Total number of bonds traded: 524

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CYPRUS...

Residence at the CHURCHILL HOTEL, P.O. Box 100, Nicosia, Cyprus. Tel. 2355. For more information, contact: INTERNATIONAL TRAVELERS, Sharafat, Tel. 61014 or 61015. Amman, Tel. 3757.

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Attention of Mr. A.R. Gracie

SITUATION VACANT

Immediate vacancy exists for mature car salesman for major dealership operating in new premises, and holding two leading franchises. Must be totally experienced in the field and hold current clean driving licence. Salary and commission.

Apply P.O. Box 14, Amman.
(Mark for the attention of Mr. A.R. Gracie)

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A second-floor apartment consisting of two bedrooms, living room, dining room, kitchen, two bathrooms, storage room, large veranda, independent central heating; luxuriously furnished. Location: Orthodox Club Road, near the Wagon Stop.

Yearly rent JD 3,600
Please call Tel. 62620, between 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. and 6:30 - 9 p.m.

FOR RENT

Furnished or unfurnished, a large building consisting of 6 super deluxe apartments each of about 200 sq. metres with 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, salon, dining and living rooms, balcony and a furnished kitchen. There is also a big 500 sq. metres basement which could accommodate 20 parking spaces. A lift of 6-passenger capacity is installed with a very big ground water reservoir. This building is located in a very nice area of Um Utheineh - Jabal Amman.

For inspection and inquiry, please contact telephone 62519 or 61918 from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m., or from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Bjorn Borg wins Monte Carlo tournament

MONTE CARLO, April 16 (R) — Bjorn Borg of Sweden demolished American Vitas Gerulaitis 6-2, 6-1, 6-3 to win the Monte Carlo Grand Prix Tennis Tournament, the first big event on the European clay court calendar. Borg was in his most irrepensible form, losing his concentration only once despite the one-sided nature of the contest. That was in the final set after he had taken a 4-0 lead. Gerulaitis managed to break service and fought back to trail by 5-3. But then Borg produced a thunderous service game to wrap up the match, maintaining his 100 per cent record against the American in tournament play. A record crowd of almost 7,000 packed the stadium to cheer home "local boy" Borg who has a home here.

Canadian wins Race of Champions

BRANDS HATCH, England, April 16 (R) — Gilles Villeneuve on Canada, one of international motor racing's fastest-rising stars, sped to victory in the Race of Champions here yesterday. The 27-year-old Canadian, driving a Ferrari, had 15 seconds to spare at the finish of the Formula One non-championship race over runner-up Nelson Piquet, the promising young Brazilian driver. Piquet, in a Brabham, was followed over the line by reigning world champion Mario Andretti of the United States in a Lotus.

Villeneuve, who was scoring his third major success of the season following victories in the South African and U.S. Grand Prix, fought a tremendous battle with Andretti for much of the race. He took the lead on the eighth of the 40 laps, surrendered it to Andretti on the 11th, then stalked the American for the next 17 circuits before going back in front again. From then on he never looked like being caught. He completed the 167 kilometres in 53 minutes 17.12 seconds at 189.45 kilometres per hour.

Australians lead in swimming meet

LONDON, April 16 (R) — Australia's compact swimming squad grabbed six first places and three seconds to take a commanding lead at the end of the first day of finals at the annual Crystal Palace International Meeting here yesterday. Tracey Wickham, holder of three world records, won both of her events in style, with an unexpected gain in the 100 metres butterfly race. She also captured the 400 metres freestyle in 4:13.17, nearly seven seconds slower than the world record she set last year.

Her team-mate Lisa Curry bettered her own Australian record with a 2:18.95 swim in the women's 200 metres individual medley without being pressed, and Lisa Forrest took the 100 metres backstroke by the merest touch from Romania's experienced Carmen Bunaciu.

The Australian men took two events, but Mark Morgan and Graeme Brewer, finishing 1-2 in the 200 metres freestyle, fell just short of their bid for the Commonwealth record of 1:51.94 held by Canada's Peter Szmidt. Morgan touched in 1:52.42.



Baseball Standings

American League

	W	L	Pct.	GB
EAST				
Milwaukee	6	2	.750	—
Boston	4	2	.667	1
New York	5	4	.556	1½
Toronto	4	4	.500	2
Detroit	2	4	.333	3
Baltimore	3	6	.333	3½
Cleveland	1	6	.142	4½

WEST

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Texas	6	1	.857	—
Minnesota	7	2	.778	—
California	7	3	.700	½
Kansas City	5	3	.625	1½
Seattle	5	6	.455	3
Chicago	2	6	.250	4½
Oakland	1	9	.100	6½

Sunday's games

Kansas City 12, Toronto 10.
Boston 14, Cleveland 4.
New York 6, Chicago 5.
Milwaukee 4, Baltimore 2.
Detroit 11, Texas 6.
California 8, Oakland 1.
Minnesota 18, Seattle 6.

National League

	W	L	Pct.	GB
EAST				
Montreal	5	2	.714	—
Philadelphia	4	3	.571	1
St. Louis	4	3	.571	1
Pittsburgh	4	5	.444	2
New York	3	4	.429	2
Chicago	1	4	.200	3

WEST

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Houston	7	3	.700	—
San Francisco	7	4	.636	½
Cincinnati	5	6	.455	2½
Los Angeles	5	6	.455	2½
Atlanta	4	6	.400	3
San Diego	4	7	.364	3½

Sunday's games

Philadelphia 3-6, New York 2-3,
St. Louis 9, Pittsburgh 4, 10 innings.
Cincinnati 5, Montreal 1.
Houston 4-9, San Francisco 3-1.
Atlanta 11, Los Angeles 4.
San Diego 6-5, Cincinnati 3-7.

Brian Barnes wins Portuguese Open

VILAMOURA, Portugal, April 16 (R) — Brian Barnes of England won the Portuguese Open Golf Championship here yesterday. Barnes shot 72 for a four round total of 288, two strokes ahead of Francisco Abreu of Spain, South African Dale Hay and 291.

Safari-Motor Rally leaders

NAIROBI, April 16 (R) — The following were the leaders with 295 kilometres (183 miles) of the Safari-Motor Rally to go: 1. Sheikh Mehta (Kenya), Datsun; 2. Hannu Mikkola (Finland), Volvo (Sweden); Mercedes Benz; 3. Markku Alen (Finland), Kivimäki (Finland), Fiat; 4. Andrew Cowan (British), stone Syer (Britain), Mercedes Benz.

White House to decide on Olympic

WASHINGTON, April 16 (AP) — The U.S. government expected to announce approval this week of a \$2.2 billion Lake Placid Olympic Organising Committee for the 1980 Winter Games. But the additional \$2.2 billion may fall short of what the financially troubled LPOC needs to meet construction cost overruns and other needs. The White House is expected to announce this week on the proposal to free between \$7.5 and \$10 million by the U.S. Commerce Department's Economic Development Administration, which is already spending roughly \$52 million on the event. New York State is spending an additional \$20 million construction costs.

The New York Times reported in its Saturday edition the White House had already quietly decided to contribute funds. Officials for the White House, Chamber Department LPOC all said Friday they knew of no decision on the request but expected an announcement this week.

Turkey downs England in basketball

ISTANBUL, April 16 (R) — Turkey won group 'A' European Basketball Championship when they beat England 73-63 in the final match yesterday. They now go forward to challenge tournament in Greece next month. In an earlier match, Denmark beat Algeria 91-86. Turkey won all four of their matches, England three, Portugal two, Denmark one and a none.

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Daily family dish with Yem milk cup. Every evening, sheep knuckles from 9:00 p.m. to midnight.

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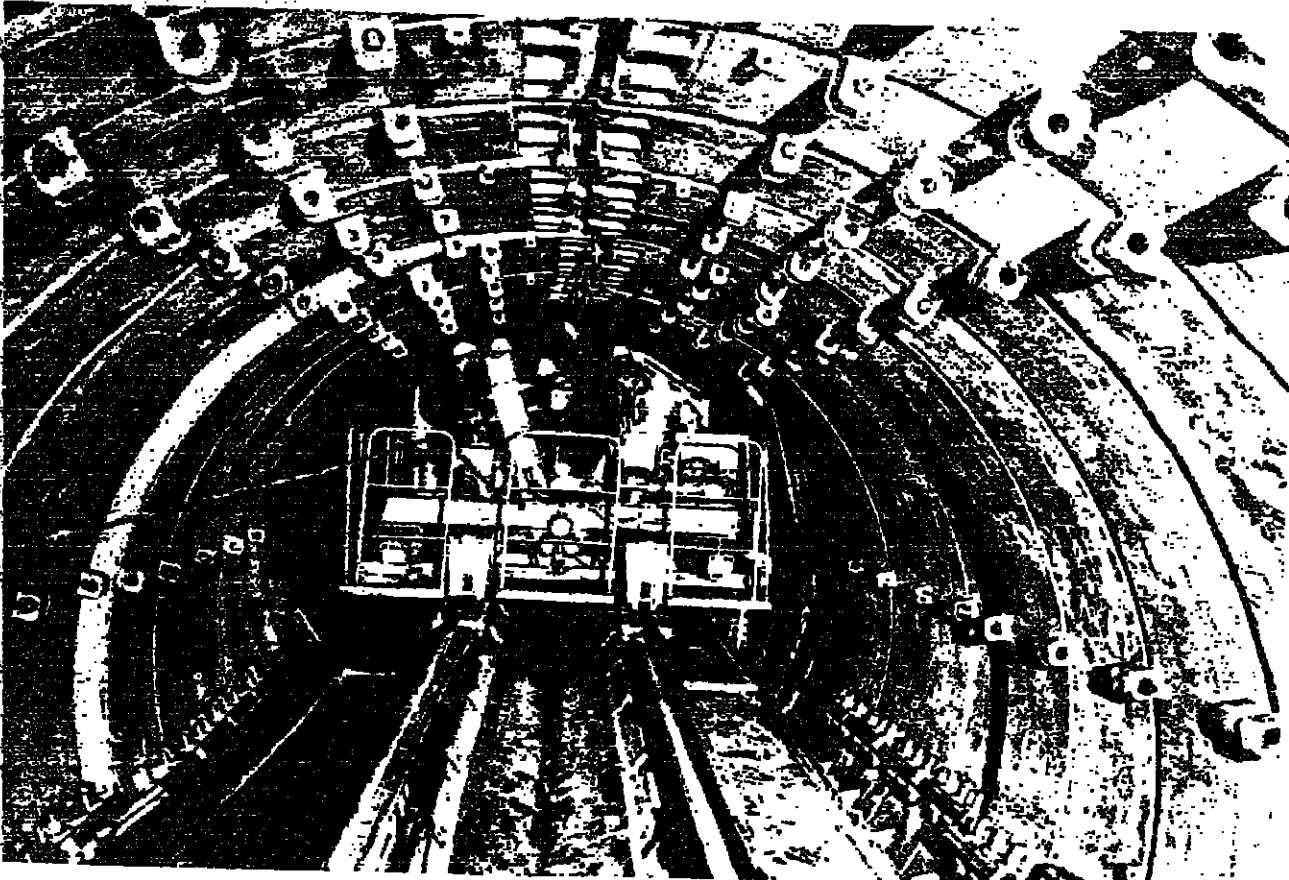
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review of new metro

is new metro line of 5.3 kilometres will industrial districts of Prague. (CTK-Tass)

JUMBLE.

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

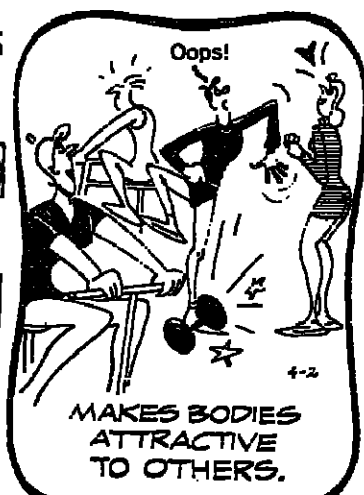
Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

CHATY

SURVI

LYROOP

GERELD



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: _____

(Answers tomorrow)

Jumbles: CHIEF LOUSE DENTAL MANIAC
Answer: It just isn't sound!—SILENCE

THE BETTER HALF

By Barnes



"There he is — my prince of wails."

THE Daily Crossword

by Henry Hook

ACROSS

1 Say "bravo"
5 Commem
9 Beards
13 Woe — I
14 Track-shoe
16 Zone
17 Whether
20 WWII French
21 in (con-
22 Draw back
24 Spelldown
25 "The — of
outrageous
fortune..."

34 Sinatra song
35 Truck
36 Cole or
Tame
37 Mild cheese
38 Desert
39 Sills or
Sutherland
40 — Abner
41 "to
please"
43 Talked
amorously
44 "Or to — a
sea of
troubles..."
47 In the past
48 Droop
49 Musical
groups

52 Relaxes
56 "And by —"
60 Martin or
Acheson
61 Frogue
62 Cartoonist
of note
63 Handle: Fr.
64 Gridiron
play
65 Uncouth

25 Food fish
26 Groucho's
"Tattooed
Lady"
27 "Though —
through the
valley..."
28 Business
group: abbr.
29 Ora pro —
30 Plays
31 Gibson
ingredient
32 Wags
33 Town: Ger.
39 "How — love
thee"
41 Salary
counter
42 Armory
43 Locked up
45 — heart
out
46 Birthstone
of FDR
49 Ready for
business
50 Audit man
51 Child's
play
53 Astrono-
mer's find
54 Preparation
55 "In the
Cloves"
56 Harem room
57 Antelope
58 Long time
59 Stooze's
name

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

POSIADA ADAM KAH
DIERER RAGE ETA
HISICASHIHO SOH
STAGE DRELAND
ARMED AREA ALAE
BRED SIGN KNEEL
CORNSMAN FNA
SIN VARIER SEV
OREE NOVEMBER
HARIN RALPH OLAE
AVER ERST ATILE
SISTINA ECAT
UNT RAYNADSBURY
QUE ATER MOLDIED
GUE SERIT SLEEPES

3/27/79

Horoscope received

PIAEN BRIDGE

GOREN
ARIF
Tribune

PERMAN

mouth deals.

partner's suit. He succeeded beyond his wildest expectations. Declarer played low from dummy, but East did not make the mistake of winning the king. Instead, he signalled encouragement with the seven.

Declarer won the ten of hearts and led the nine of diamonds. West made a fine play by rising with the king to lead another heart. Declarer again played low from dummy. East won the king and removed declarer's last heart stopper.

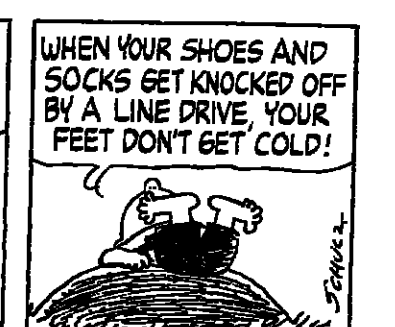
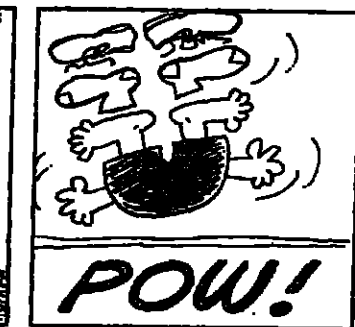
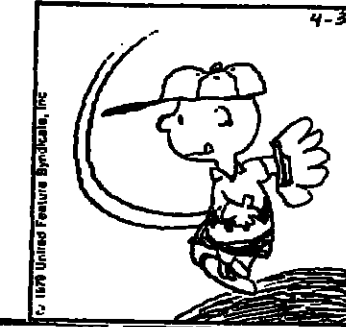
In the hope that West had started with both missing diamond honors, declarer persisted with that suit. Unfortunately, East held the ace and took two more heart tricks to defeat the contract.

Declarer ignored the facts. If West held two sure side entries, he would not have led a short suit—he would have tried to establish his long suit. Therefore, it was very likely that East held one of the diamond honors, so continuation of that suit was suicidal.

Declarer could count three spade tricks, plus two heart tricks already in the bank. If he could collect four tricks in clubs, he would have nine tricks without the diamond suit. The best percentage play for four club tricks was to finesse dummy's ten.

Theoretically, the finesse was only a 50-50 proposition, but the fact that West was short in hearts suggested length in clubs. If that were the case, West was likely to have the jack of clubs. Since this was the only realistic chance for the contract, declarer should have crossed to his hand with a high spade and led a club to the ten. When that held, the contract would be secure.

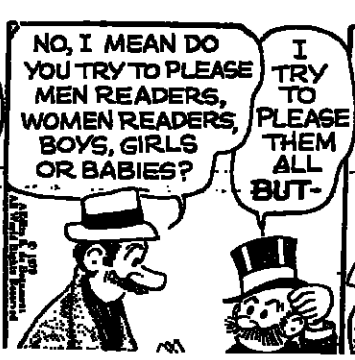
Peanuts



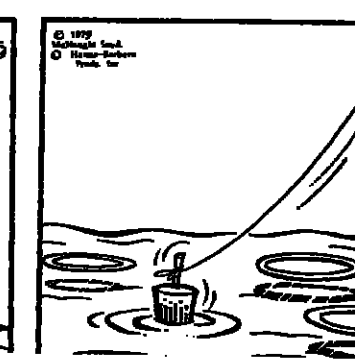
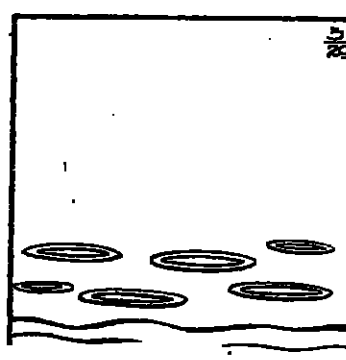
Andy Capp



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Flintstones



JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

JORDAN TELEVISION

CHANNEL 3:	CHANNEL 4:
5:30 Quiz	6:30 French programme
5:45 Caricots	14:10 News in French
6:00 Children programme	7:30 News in Hebrew
6:40 Revised	8:30 Comedy
7:10 Return to Peyton Palace	9:10 The Cinema Line
8:00 News in Arabic	10:00 News in English
8:30 Arabic Series	10:15 Backstairs at the White House
9:30 Arabic programme	
10:15 Backstairs at the White House	
11:00 News in Arabic	

RADIO JORDAN

7:00 Sign on	14:00 News bulletin
7:01 Morning show	14:10 Music
7:30 News Bulletin	14:30 In Concert
7:40 Morning show	15:00 Concert hour
10:00 News bulletin	16:00 News summary
10:03 Morning show	16:03 Easy listening
10:30 Places and Places	16:30 Old favourites
11:00 Sign off	17:00 The Boston Pops
12:00 Sign on and news headlines	18:00 News Summary
12:03 Radiotheque	18:03 Play of the week
13:00 News summary	19:00 News bulletin
13:03 Radiotheque	19:10 News Reports
	19:30 Signing off

BBC RADIO

GMT:	13:30 Network U.K.
04:00 Newsdesk	13:45 Scansetter
04:30 Nature Notebook	14:30 Talkabout
04:45 Intertube: Reflections	15:00 Radio Newstead
05:00 News: 24 Hours	15:15 Outlook
05:30 Sarah Ward	16:00 News: Commentary
05:45 World Today	16:15 The Academic String Quartet
06:00 Newsdesk	16:45 World Today
06:30 Music and the March of History	17:00 News
07:00 News: 24 Hours	17:09 Scotland this Week
07:30 Sarah Ward	17:15 Thirty Minute Theatre
07:45 Network U.K.	17:45 Sports Round-up
08:00 News: Reflections	18:00 News: News about Britain
08:00 News: Prime Review	18:15 Radio Newstead
09:15 World Today	18:30 The Farming World
09:30 Intertube	19:00 Outlook: News Summary
09:40 Look Ahead	19:30 Stock Market
09:45 Top Music Request	19:45 Classical Record Review
10:15 Talk Out	20:00 News: 24 Hours
10:30 Sports International	20:30 Hymns Ancient and Modern
11:00 News: News about Britain	21:00 World Radio Club
11:15 Letter from London	21:15 The Pleasure's Yours
11:25 Scotland this Week	22:00 News: World Today
11:30 This is or leave it	22:25 Financial News
12:00 Radio Newstead	22:35 Scotland this Week: Reflections
12:15 John Peel	23:00 Sports Round-up
12:45 Sports Round-up	23:00 News: Commentary
13:00 News: 24 hours	

VOICE OF AMERICA

GMT:	19:00 News Roundup: reports, opinion, analyses
03:30 The Breakfast Show:	19:30 VOA Magazine: Americana, science, culture, letters
12:05 Kuwait (KAC)	20:00 Special English: news
12:40 Riyadh (SDI)	20:15 Music USA (Jazz)
13:00 News Roundup: reports, opinion, analyses	21:00 VOA World Report
17:30 Dialectic	22:00 News, Correspondents' reports, background features, media comments, analysis
18:00 Special English: news, feature "The Making of a Nation"	
18:30 News Music USA	

AMMAN AIRPORT

ARRIVALS:	DEPARTURES:
4:45 Bangkok, Bahrain (RJ-GF)	7:40 Damascus, London (BA)
5:05 Kuwait (KAC)	8:45 Beirut (MEA)
12:40 Riyadh (SDI)	9:00 Frankfurt
15:30 New York	9:30 Rome
16:30 Copenhagen	11:00 Geneva, Brussels, Amsterdam
17:30 Madrid, Athens	13:00 Kuwait (KAC)
17:30 London, Paris	13:40 Riyadh, Doha (RJ-GF)
17:50 Cairo (EA)	18:30 Damascus
18:15 Rome	19:00 Cairo
19:00 Beirut (MEA)	20:00 Doha, Abu Dhabi (RJ-GF)
19:00 Baghdad (IA)	20:00 Baghdad (IA)
19:15 Frankfurt	21:00 Jeddah
20:45 Damascus	22:30 Doha, Kuwait (RJ-GF)
23:59 Cairo	23:59 Bangkok, Bahrain

EMERGENCIES

Doctors	Al Hishah (24 hrs 36571)
Emergency (24 hrs)	Fakhouri (24956)
Bassam Inshad (07190)	Zain Zaghloul (38591)
Zain Zaghloul (38591)	Al Hishah
Al Hishah	Tel: (23427)
Firm (23427)	Al Union (23050)
Al Union (23050)	Bassam (56736)
Bassam (56736)	Al Shari (56636)

CULTURAL CENTRES (Amman)

American Centre	Tel. 41520
British Council	36147-8
French Cultural Centre	37009
Goethe Institute	41993
Soviet Cultural Centre	44203
Spanish Cultural Centre	34649
Haya Arts Centre	65195
Museum Youth City	67181
Y.W.C.A.	41793
Y.W.M.C.A.	46251
Amman Municipal Library	36111
University of Jordan Library	65111
Casual Museum	36101
Folklore Museum	36191

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS (Amman)

Ambulance (government)	Tel. 75111
Civil defence military	24391-4
Jordan Electric Power Co. (emergency)	36381-2
Municipal water service (emergency)	37111-3
Police headquarters	37111-3
Nighttime patrol rescue police (English spoken) 24 hours a day for emergency	21111, 37777
Airport information (ALIA)	55205
Jordan Television	73111
Radio, English Section	24124
Fire department	19
Fire headquarters	22090

CULTURAL CENTRES (Damascus)

Al Hama Theatre	Tel. 226-448
Al Shifa Art Gallery	228-527
American Centre	352-362
Arab Cultural Centre	353-727
Bulgarian Cultural Centre	353-594
British Cultural Centre	333-032
Deutscher Demokratischer Kulturzentrum	330-694
French Cultural Centre	222-016
Kalbiyah Theatre	114-834
National Museum	225-650
Soviet Cultural Centre	334-003
Spanish Cultural Centre	334-619
Umbria Art Gallery	111-318
Zahediya Public Library	224-554
West German Cultural Institute	224-554

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS (Damascus)

Ambulance (government)	Tel. 99
Chamber of Commerce	118-339
Electric Power Co. (repair)	223-887
Fire headquarters	91
Information	9597
Municipal water service	113-500
Time (in Amman)	99

Catastrophic quake hits Adriatic coast; at least 235 killed

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia, April 16 (AP)—Tens of thousands of persons spent the night in the open after an earthquake yesterday devastated parts of the Adriatic coastline in southern Yugoslavia and Albania and killed at least 235 persons.

Doctors flown in from across Yugoslavia treated hundreds of injured in makeshift relief centres. Rescue workers, using specially-trained dogs, searched more than a dozen coastal towns and villages for survivors or bodies buried in the rubble. Frogmen searched in coastal waters for persons whose homes slid into the sea. It was the strongest quake

ever recorded in Yugoslavia, although the toll was far less than that of the quake in Skopje, 160 kilometres to the east, in which more than 1,100 were killed.

Officials at Belgrade's Seismological Institute said the quake at 0620 GMT yesterday had the power of ten million tons of explosives. Hardest hit was a coastal strip in southern

Montenegro, from the town of Herceg-Novi on the north to Ucinj, 116 kilometres from the Albanian frontier.

The initial 50-second shock tore open hotels, hospitals, factories and homes along the coast. Buildings and roads slid into the sea. There were waves of violent aftershocks, and by evening more than 80 tremors had been reported.

"There is not a single house that has not been damaged in one way or another in Herceg-Novi," according to the mayor of the resort town.

Local officials said the quake leveled virtually all older buildings in 13 towns along the coast, a popular, sun-drenched tourist area. Roads and rail lines in the area were damaged and telephone, water and power lines were broken.

President Josip Broz Tito, who was vacationing near Herceg-Novi, visited the stricken area and ordered aides to mobilise rescue and relief operations. "Many families sustained a tragedy and these losses cannot be recovered," Mr. Tito said in a broadcast appeal to the nation for help.

The quake set buildings swaying as far away as West Germany, Austria and Hungary. In Salonika, Greece, Naples, Italy, and in Belgrade, the Yugoslav capital, people fled into the streets in panic.

On the Richter Scale, the reading of 6.5 for yesterday's quake indicates that it was five times stronger than the Skopje quake, which measured 6.0. Hundreds of foreign tourists who came to the sunny south Adriatic Riviera to spend the Easter holidays were being evacuated northward via Dubrovnik. According to latest official Yugoslav information, no foreigners were injured.

soldiers and bring the fighting into Thailand.

The news agency of the Phnom Penh administration said yesterday Mr. Pol Pot and his deputy, Mr. Ieng Sary, had fled to Thailand after Vietnamese-led forces smashed their guerrilla stronghold.

But military sources here said they believed Pol Pot was still in Kampuchea, in the rugged southwestern Cardomom Mountains.

The rapid Vietnamese-led advance was part of an offensive in northwest Kampuchea apparently designed to clear the region of Khmer Rouge before the wet season starts late next month.

The military sources said the Thai army had mined the border area of the salient, leaving open sections through which people could flee if necessary. This would make it easier to disarm soldiers and separate them from civilians.

Thousands of Kampucheans said driven to Thai border by Vietnamese-led offensive

ARANYAPRATHET, Thailand, April 16 (R)—More than 50,000 Kampucheans have been pushed into a small salient of territory jutting into eastern Thailand by a new Vietnamese-led offensive, official sources said yesterday.

They said the Kampucheans, including Khmer Rouge soldiers loyal to ousted leader Pol Pot, appeared to have no escape route except into Thailand.

The Khmer Rouge soldiers yesterday moved the civilians in the salient, which lies about 20 kilometres south of this eastern frontier town, farther back from the border apparently to stop them fleeing to Thailand, the sources said.

Thai authorities had earlier refused to allow the mass of people to cross. Military sources here said the Thai army was afraid the Vietnamese-led forces of the new administration in Phnom Penh might follow the Khmer Rouge

Success of U.S. policy on overseas arms sales said dependent on talks with USSR

WASHINGTON, April 16 (AP)—The future of American attempts to limit overseas arms sales will depend on what progress is made in getting the Soviet Union to curb its sales, a U.S. Senate report says.

The study by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee said so far the Carter administration's effort to limit arms sales has not curtailed the flow of weapons to Third World countries and is being attacked by supporters and critics alike.

"It is criticised on the one hand for lack of vigorous implementation and on the other for placing the United States at a competitive disadvantage in the world's arms markets," said the study, which was released yesterday. "Both criticisms are partially accurate," it said.

Pope appeals for universal peace in Easter address

VATICAN CITY, April 16 (R)—Pope John Paul wished the world a happy Easter yesterday and appealed for universal peace before a 300,000 crowd which spilled into the streets round St. Peter's Square.

The Polish-born Pontiff, celebrating his first Easter as leader of the world's 700 million Roman Catholics, delivered his speech "Urbi et Orbi" (to the city and the world) from the balcony of the Basilica. After saying mass in the colonnaded square, the Pontiff gave his Easter wishes in 32 languages, then expressed his hopes for peace to peoples of the Middle East, Africa, Asia and Latin America.

The Pope also recalled the plight of the world's starving children, a clear recognition of a few thousand peace marchers who had converged on St. Peter's to draw attention to this problem.

The protest march was halted briefly by police after demonstrators had crossed the Tiber from the city to the way to St. Peter's Square. Marchers said they were protesting at the world's annual \$380 billion spending on arms, while some 17 million children starved to death each year.

"I am thinking at this moment in particular of all those who are suffering for the lack of what is strictly necessary for existence, and above all of the little children," the Pontiff said in his speech.

The festive crowd, which included one group of pilgrims who had walked barefoot from the city of Assisi in central Italy, was far bigger than those of previous years and reflected the wide popularity of the new Pope.

The Pope described peace as the fruit of fundamental order. "Peace is the expression of respect for every human being's right to truth, freedom, justice and love," he said. "Man can never lose the hope of the victory of good. May this day become for us today the beginning of a new hope."

After his Italian address, televised to 27 nations round the world, the Pope spoke in other languages—many of the Eastern bloc—and apologised light-heartedly for his bas pronunciation. He said Polish was the only language he knew really well.

The Pope wished listeners in East Europe a happy Easter in Albanian, Croatian, Slovene, Czech, Slovak, Hungarian, Romanian, Bulgarian, Russian, Lithuanian, Lettish, Ukrainian, Armenian and Byelorussian. The crowd cheered loudly when he added an Easter greeting in Chinese.

As well as European languages, the Pope also sent greetings in Hindi, Japanese, Arabic, Ethiopian and Swahili.

An Italian military band played after his blessing and a platoon of Swiss guards snapped to attention as the crowd burst into applause shouting "Viva il Papa."



Struggling homeward

KAMPUCHEA—After the arrival of the new regime, these villagers are trying to return to their cities. They are stopped at city entrances where they camp while waiting for authorisation to live in the city again. (Gamma photo)

Guerrilla attack on Rhodesian fuel storage depot results in big losses

SALISBURY, Rhodesia, April 16 (AP)—Black nationalist guerrillas attacked and set fire to an oil storage depot in the southern town of Fort Victoria last night amid threats by their leaders to sabotage this week's Rhodesian elections.

Firefighters put out the blaze today after it raged through the night, a military spokesman here confirmed. Industry sources said almost a million gallons of diesel fuel and thousands more of petrol were destroyed.

Two tanks at the depot, which supplies fuel for the military and for farms and industries in the southeastern part of the country, were set ablaze, residents said.

Rhodesia is organising parliamentary elections to end nine decades of white domination and produce limited black majority rule. Guerrilla leaders Joshua Nkomo and Robert Mugabe have vowed to sabotage the elections, step up the six-year war for total black rule and overthrow the government that emerges.

Meanwhile, U.S. Congressman Stephen Solarz, head of the House Subcommittee of Africa, is one of two U.S. officials here to assess the prospects of a peace conference between the biracial transition government and the guerrilla leaders after the first black government is installed.

The guerrillas have rejected a

constitutional accord paving the way for limited black rule, signed by Prime Minister Ian Smith and three moderate black leaders—Bishop Abel Muzorewa, the Rev. Ndabeni Sithole and Chief Jeremiah Chirau.

The constitution, which the guerrilla leaders want rewritten, provides for a black prime minister, black titular president and a 100-seat House of Assembly in which whites, who comprise three per cent of the population, will hold 28 places.

In a bid to win international recognition for the elections, some

70 mainly unofficial observers from at least eight countries—Australia, Britain, Canada, Belgium, France, Mauritius, the United States and West Germany—are expected to monitor the polls. Most had arrived by today, the day before the five-day elections begin.

Mr. Solarz, here with Congressman Robert Duncan of Oregon, was expected to leave later in the day for a tour of other African capitals and for talks with guerrilla leaders and the African heads of state who support them in their struggle.

Pakistan cabinet members persuaded to delay walkout

ISLAMABAD, April 16 (R)—Military ruler General Zia-ul-Haq, faced with the threat of a walkout by more than half his cabinet members, yesterday persuaded ministers to stay on for a few days until he can form a new government, informed sources said.

The Pakistan National Alliance (PNA) decided to withdraw its 13 members from the 22-strong government, apparently because they feared being linked with the execution earlier this month of former premier Zulfikar Ali Bhutto. The remainder of the cabinet comprises bureaucrats

and technocrats.

The PNA ministers had complained that they were not allowed to wield full powers over their departments and that in some cases the real power lay with army generals serving as heads of departments.

Alliance President Maulana Mufi Mahmud has stated that PNA ministers played no role in the decision to hang Mr. Bhutto, who was convicted of ordering the killing of a political opponent.

The alliance conveyed its decision to withdraw from the government to General Zia yesterday and an official statement said the ministers had agreed to continue in office for a few days.

The six-party alliance, which helped to topple Mr. Bhutto over charges of election rigging nearly two years ago, said it would continue to support the military regime.

The timing of the withdrawal, so soon after Mr. Bhutto's execution, is likely to be embarrassing for the army regime. When General Zia formed the cabinet last August it was generally believed he was attempting to spread responsibility for sentencing Mr. Bhutto to death.

Although he could form a new cabinet of technocrats, General Zia will find himself cut off from direct political support and could come under increasing pressure to lift curbs on political activity.

The decision to quit the government, however, apparently helped the alliance to overcome a split in its largest component party, the Moslem League. The split developed when the league's president disowned his representatives in the government.

For several months the alliance sidestepped the issue of granting recognition to any of the various factions that grew out of the squabble.

World News Briefs

Robbers make huge haul in Canadian capital

OTTAWA, Canada, April 16 (R)—Robbers who raided Ottawa's main post office on Easter Sunday took cash, cheques and valuables worth between \$3 million and \$5 million, in what police describe as the biggest robbery in Canadian history. The loot included an estimated \$2.5 million in American Express money orders and travel cheques, as well as cash, jewels and banked coins from two post boxes, police said. The raiders also took Canadian and U.S. passports which could be sold illegally for large sums. They entered the building, which was guarded by a lone commissioner, passing through the back door.

House arrest of Bhutto's daughter extended

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan, April 16 (AP)—Miss Benazir Bhutto, daughter of executed former prime minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, has been kept under house arrest for 15 more days, informed sources here today. Miss Bhutto has been under house arrest for several months. She is a member of the Pakistan People's Party (PPP), which is acting chairman of Mr. Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party (PPP) is under house arrest. The previous order putting Miss Benazir Bhutto under house arrest expired yesterday. The present period of detention for Mrs. Bhutto expires May 4. No official word was given on whether that will be extended.

USSR-U.S. chemical warfare talks to continue

WASHINGTON, April 16 (R)—The United States and the Soviet Union said yesterday a seven-week round of talks in Geneva prohibiting chemical warfare had been useful and negotiations will resume at a date to be agreed on. In a joint statement, the countries said the talks were aimed at achieving the earliest possible completion of a joint initiative to be presented to the Geneva Disarmament Conference. "The goal of the negotiations is achievement of an agreement which would provide for a complete and verifiable prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons, as well as providing for elimination of accumulated stocks of such weapons," they said. "The meetings which took place were useful. The delegation continued to work on bringing together their respective views on many of the issues related to a joint initiative." The talks began Feb. 21 and ended on April 12. It was the ninth in a series of talks in August, 1976.

Polisario draws line with Morocco, Mauritania

ALGIERS, April 16 (R)—The secretary-general of the Polisario guerrilla movement, fighting for the independence of the Western Sahara, has said his movement will have no contact with Morocco or Mauritania until they evacuate the territory. Speaking after a meeting with Algerian cabinet members, Mohammed Abdel-Aziz said the Saharans would use force to mean at their disposal to liberate what he called the occupied territory. Western Sahara, a former Spanish colony, was handed to joint Moroccan and Mauritanian administration by Spain in 1975. The Polisario declared a ceasefire with Mauritania last year but continued raids against Morocco. The movement held several rounds of inconclusive talks with Mauritanian officials last year.

Thousands of Basque separatists demonstrate

SAN SEBASTIAN, Spain, April 16 (AP)—An estimated 5,000 Basque separatists demonstrated in Spain's northern Basque country yesterday, the "Abertzale Eguna" or day of the Basque nation. Despite cold and rain, the throng marched through San Sebastian's main streets carrying Basque flags and placards demanding government and autonomy. Thousands of other demonstrators turned out in two other Basque cities of Bilbao and Vitoria, as in nearby Pamplona. Led by Basque political leaders, they sang slogans in support of ETA, the Basque guerrilla organisation, the Madrid government for full independence of the Basque provinces from Spain. Under the republican government that ruled in the 1930s, the Basques enjoyed autonomy, but abolished after the late General Francisco Franco won the Civil War in 1939. Fifteen months ago the government of Adolfo Suarez returned provisional home rule to the Basque

U.K. recognises new Ugandan Government

LONDON, April 16 (R)—Britain yesterday announced recognition of the new Ugandan Government of President Yusef Lule. The British broke off diplomatic relations with the regime of Marshal Idi Amin in July 1976 after he had expelled several diplomats from Kampala. Speaking in a BBC Radio interview, Foreign Secretary David Owen said: "The time has now come when we should be offering as much help as we can." He said British Dr. Richard Posenett had flown to Uganda from Nairobi. "He is making contact with the new government and that will be an act of recognition," Dr. Owen said. "He will be charged with finding out what we can do to help. I think they are going to get a great deal of help from the Commonwealth countries."

Viet refugee boat defies police warning

HONG KONG, April 16 (R)—A Vietnamese refugee boat about 570 people on board yesterday defied a police warning and sailed into Hong Kong, whose refugee transit camps are full. A government spokesman said the 36-metre vessel was intercepted by a navy patrol craft in international waters just outside Hong Kong and dropped anchor there. But after standing off for several hours the refugees sailed into Hong Kong despite a police warning that had no permission to enter. The boat was escorted by two launches to an anchorage where the people on board were questioned about their status. The Hong Kong Government allows Vietnamese refugees to stay until they find new homes where. More than 8,000 "boat people" from Vietnam have here on small craft this year.

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